AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Please cancel claim 38 without prejudice.

1-36. (Canceled).

37. (Amended Herewith) A method for stimulating a subjects response to a vaccine comprising administering an immunostimulatory oligonucleotide adjuvant as a vaccine adjuvant to the subject to stimulate the subject's response to the vaccine, wherein the immunostimulatory oligonucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification and an unmethylated cytosine-guanine dinucleotide.

38. (Canceled Herewith)

39. (Amended Herewith) The method of claim 39~~38~~, wherein the phosphate backbone modification is a phosphorothioate.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide is linked to a nucleic acid delivery complex.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the nucleic acid delivery complex is a cationic lipid.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the oligonucleotide is covalently linked to the nucleic acid delivery complex.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the oligonucleotide is ionically linked to or encapsulated in the nucleic acid delivery complex.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the nucleic acid delivery complex is a sterol.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises 5'-TCAACGTT-3', 5'-TGACGTT-3', or 5'TGACGTC3'.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the subject is human.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide is administered orally.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide is administered by injection.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the injection is subcutaneous, intravenous, or parenteral.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide is administered transdermally.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the oligonucleotide is in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide is 8-40 nucleotides in length.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises $X_1X_2CGX_3X_4$ 3', wherein C and G are unmethylated, X_1, X_2, X_3, and X_4 are nucleotides and a GCG trinucleotide sequence is not present at or near the 5' and 3' termini.

54. (Amended Herewith) The method of claim 37, wherein the unmethylated cytosine-guanine dinucleotide is flanked by two 5' purines and two 3' pyrimidines.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least two unmethylated cytosine-guanine motifs.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein at least one of the at least two unmethylated cytosine-guanine motifs is not palindromic.